



# The Guide

## North Rim Information and Maps



Welcome to Grand Canyon National Park! Most visitors experience Grand Canyon from viewpoints along the rim. From this expansive perspective, it is hard to see anything but a harshly spectacular and ruggedly beautiful landscape. Manmade structures are often hard to spot because they have such a minimal footprint on the canyon's grandeur.

Far below the rim, hundreds of miles of river corridor and backcountry trails allow the intrepid to experience a world without cell phones, computers, or even electricity. What do you think you might learn about yourself if you were to embark on such an adventure?

Many come to Grand Canyon with the intent of experiencing nature and themselves



## Welcome to Grand Canyon

SITTING ATOP THE KAIBAB Plateau, 8,000 to 9,000 feet (2,400–2,750 m) above sea level with lush green meadows surrounded by a mixed conifer forest sprinkled with white-barked aspen, the North Rim is an oasis in the desert. Here you may observe deer feeding, coyote chasing mice in the meadows, a mother turkey leading her young across the road, or a mountain lion slinking off into

the cover of the forest. Visitors in the spring may see remnants of winter in disappearing snowdrifts or temporary mountain lakes of melted snow. The summer with colorful wildflowers and intense thunderstorms comes and goes all too quickly, only to give way to the colors of fall. With the yellows and oranges of quaking aspen and the reds of Rocky Mountain maple, the forest seems to glow. Crispness in the air

warns of winter snowstorms soon to come. Although only 10 miles (16 km) as the raven flies from the South Rim, the North Rim offers a very different visitor experience. Solitude, awe-inspiring views, a slower pace, and the feeling of going back in time are only a few of the many attributes the North Rim has to offer. Discover the uniqueness of Grand Canyon's North Rim.

at their most basic. They often say that in the slower pace, the aloneness, and the vastness, they find extraordinary beauty, inner peace, adventure, and sometimes, a part of themselves they never even knew existed. This, for many, is the value of wildness.

Wild lands and wild experiences are among the resources the National Park Service protects here. The park is in the process of developing a backcountry management plan for Grand Canyon; and your opinions and comments are important to us.

While you are here, consider experiencing some of Grand Canyon's wildness for yourself, but don't forget to seek the advice of the experienced rangers in the Backcountry Information Center before you go.

Once you return home, I hope you will watch for opportunities to participate in Grand Canyon's backcountry management planning process by providing the park with your observations, feedback, and suggestions. With your help, the National Park Service hopes to continue providing incredible backcountry experiences for decades to come

Thank you,



David V. Uberuaga, Superintendent

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# Experience North Rim

Bring this Guide with you to the North Rim Visitor Center and a park ranger can answer any questions you may have.



## Attend a Park Ranger Program

Interested in learning more about Grand Canyon? Join park rangers and volunteers who know it inside and out. Walks and programs listed on page 5.



## Ride a Bike

Permitted on paved and dirt roads unless posted. Permitted only on the Bridle Trail and Arizona Trail. Roads can be congested. Remember: wear a helmet, ride single file, and stay aware of your surroundings.



## Go For a Hike

### Walk to Bright Angel Point

Hear Roaring Springs and try to spot South Rim buildings, people hiking below the rim, or the distant San Francisco Peaks.

### Wander the Rim Trails

Explore Widforss, Transept, and other trails with beautiful forest and canyon views.

### Day Hike into Grand Canyon

Even a few steps down the North Kaibab Trail will help you experience Grand Canyon's splendor. Remember, it takes twice as long to hike up as it does to hike down. *Do not attempt to hike to the river and back in one day!*

See pages 6-8 for trail information.



## Take a Drive

### Explore Point Imperial

Experience the park's highest point at 8,803 feet (2,742 m). Point Imperial offers a unique view of Mount Hayden, Marble Canyon, and landscapes changed by fire.

### Watch Sunset at Cape Royal

Walk the nature trail for Colorado River views and visit Angel's Window Overlook.

### Discover Walhalla Overlook

Visit ancestral Puebloan ruins and learn about the people who made a summer home here 900 years ago.

### Vehicle Restrictions

Vehicles longer than 30 feet (9 m) not recommended on the roads to Cape Royal and Point Imperial.

See map and information on pages 6-7.

•Be careful near the canyon's edge •Drive safely and observe the speed limit  
•Dial 911 in emergencies •Grand Canyon National Park observes Mountain Standard Time





National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Grand Canyon National Park

Located entirely in northern Arizona, the park encompasses 277 miles (446 km) of the Colorado River and adjacent uplands. One of the most spectacular examples of erosion anywhere in the world, Grand Canyon is unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers to visitors on the rim. Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site.

### Superintendent David V. Uberuaga

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### Park Headquarters

928-638-7888

### Website

[www.nps.gov/grca/](http://www.nps.gov/grca/)



*The Guide* is published by Grand Canyon National Park, supported by your user fees; it is available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean. An *Accessibility Guide* is also available.

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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# Monsoons and Lightning



## Monsoon...In Arizona?

Vibrant thunderstorms and heavy rain surprise visitors coming to Grand Canyon National Park in the summer. During these events, one often hears “Isn’t this rain unusual? This is Arizona. It’s supposed to be a desert, isn’t it?”

Much to the surprise of visitors, summer rain is a normal and vital contributor to the ecosystem. Flora and fauna rely on this rain to sustain life and have developed unique adaptations to take advantage of the moisture that becomes available.

The thunderstorms sweeping across Grand Canyon during summer are part of the monsoon season. Monsoon comes from the Arabic word *mausim* which means “season.” It refers to the large-scale seasonal changes in wind that often bring rain to southern and southeast Asia. A high pressure system over southeastern Colorado and the

Texas Panhandle interacting with a low pressure system over southern California causes the Arizona monsoon. This interplay of atmospheric conditions draws moist, tropical air from the Gulf of Mexico resulting in frequent, sometimes violent, thunderstorms with heavy rain.

The monsoon in the Southwest begins in July and can continue into early September. If you are lucky enough to experience a rainstorm at Grand Canyon, it is cause for celebration. Rain in the desert is a rare treat. Enjoy watching the clouds pass over the canyon, rain streaming down from the sky, and the sun spotlighting the canyon walls. The storms usually pass quickly, leaving the forest renewed and the air refreshed. If lightning is present, it is best to wait for the storm to pass in the safety of an automobile or a building.

## Avoid Shocking Experiences

Dangerous lightning strikes commonly occur on Grand Canyon’s North Rim. Stay away from exposed rim areas during thunderstorms. Hair standing on end is a warning. It signals that an electrical charge is building near you and lightning may strike. Move away from the rim immediately!

During storms, stay safe inside a vehicle with the windows closed or in a building. Avoid touching anything metal. For additional information, ask for a lightning awareness brochure at the visitor center.



This visitor displays an improper reaction to the threat of lightning. Static electricity can make your hair stand on end and is a sure sign you should seek cover in an enclosed area.

# Tips for Enjoying Your Visit

**Beginning September 1, the road to Cape Royal will be closed at Roosevelt Point and the road to Point Imperial will be closed at the "Y" for repaving.**

To ensure a safe and enjoyable visit to Grand Canyon National Park's North Rim, please keep the following in mind:



**Steep Cliffs**  
Loose sand or pebbles on stone are very slippery. Be careful of cliff edges when using cameras or binoculars. Never throw or roll rocks;

there may be hikers below. Stay on the trail. Stay back from cliff edges. Observe posted warnings. Parents—watch your children! Don't ruin your vacation by having an accident. Your safety is your responsibility.

**Emergency: 911**  
EMT-certified rangers respond 24 hours a day. Dial 911 or 9-911 from your room or cabin.

**Drive With Care**  
Observe posted speed limits. Maximum speed limit is 45 mph. Watch for people and wildlife. Increase caution at night and during wet conditions.

**What Time Is It?**  
Grand Canyon National Park is on Mountain Standard Time year-round. During summer, Arizona is the same time as California and one hour behind Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.



Not sure where to go or what to do? Bring this Guide to the Visitor Center and a park ranger will help you get the most from your visit.

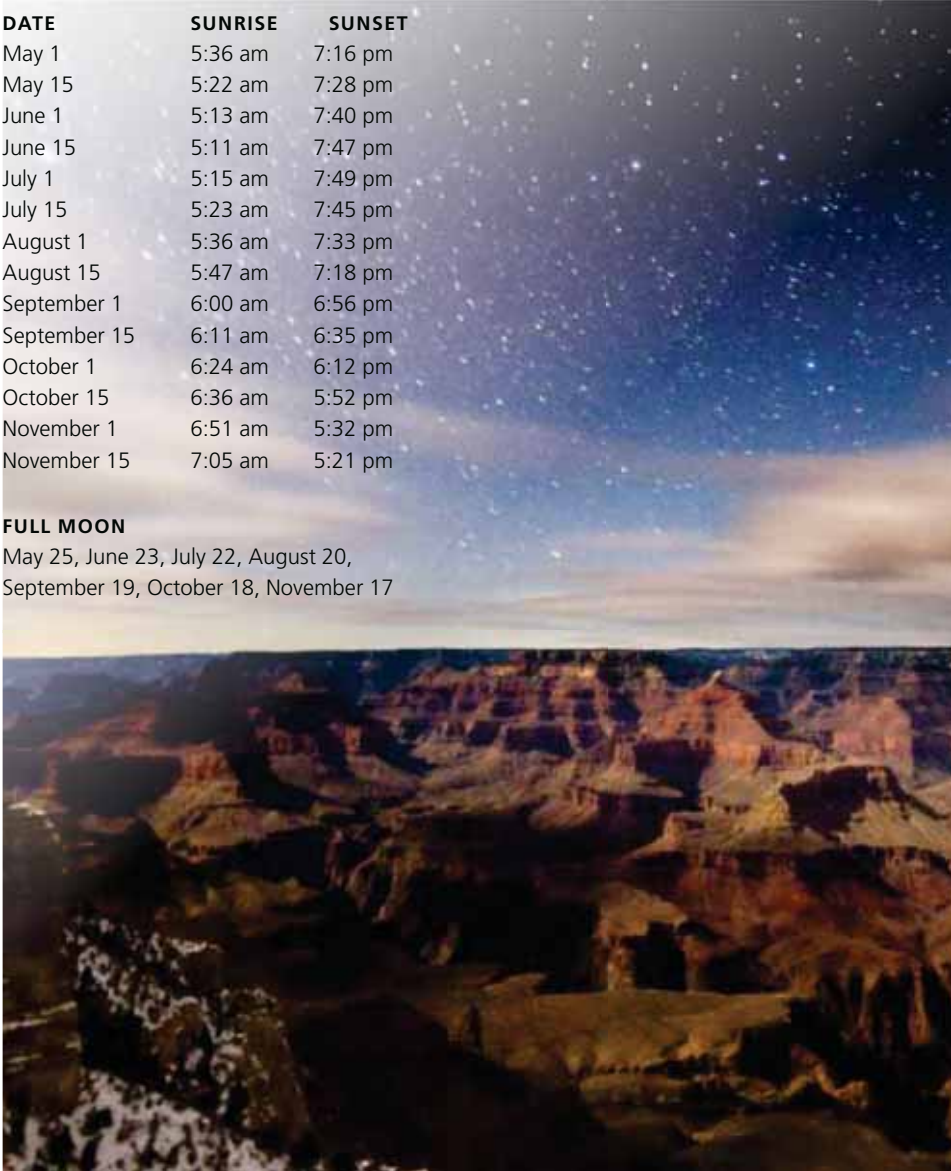
## Sky Watch

Take some time to enjoy northern Arizona's clear skies. Watch the sun rise or set over the canyon, or ponder the vastness of the universe as the night sky is illuminated by thousands of stars.

DATE	SUNRISE	SUNSET
May 1	5:36 am	7:16 pm
May 15	5:22 am	7:28 pm
June 1	5:13 am	7:40 pm
June 15	5:11 am	7:47 pm
July 1	5:15 am	7:49 pm
July 15	5:23 am	7:45 pm
August 1	5:36 am	7:33 pm
August 15	5:47 am	7:18 pm
September 1	6:00 am	6:56 pm
September 15	6:11 am	6:35 pm
October 1	6:24 am	6:12 pm
October 15	6:36 am	5:52 pm
November 1	6:51 am	5:32 pm
November 15	7:05 am	5:21 pm

## FULL MOON

May 25, June 23, July 22, August 20, September 19, October 18, November 17







The McKee family, who operated the first visitor facilities on the North Rim, poses with Brighty.

## A Burro Called Brighty

In 1953 Marguerite Henry wrote *Brighty of the Grand Canyon*. Ever since, children and adults have been fascinated by the small burro who played a role in Grand Canyon history. Who was Brighty? How much of this tale is true?

Brighty was a real burro. He lived at Grand Canyon from around 1892 until 1922. He was given the name Bright Angel after the creek that flowed into the canyon from his home on the North Rim, but everyone called him Brighty. He spent his summers carrying water from a spring to early tourist accommodations on the North Rim. He was tolerant of children, who would ride on his back for hours. Most of the events and people in Marguerite

Henry's book were based on fact. Brighty was the first to cross the new bridge at the bottom of the canyon, and he did meet Teddy Roosevelt.

In spite of his friendliness toward people and his willingness to act as a beast of burden, he was essentially a wild creature who roamed the canyon at will. It is this spirit of independence that has captured the hearts of readers for years. Today a life-sized bronze statue of Brighty, the work of sculptor Peter Jepson, sits in Grand Canyon Lodge on the North Rim. Here, he is admired and remembered by children and adults alike. Legend has it that a rub on the nose brings good luck.

## Grand Canyon Lodge: Decades of Service

Grand Canyon Lodge on the North Rim of Grand Canyon is often the first prominent feature visitors see, even before viewing the canyon. The highway ends at the lodge. The lodge's sloped roof, huge ponderosa beams, and massive limestone facade fit its 8,000-foot (2,400 m) setting, but where is Grand Canyon?

To experience the full impact of the design of the lodge, take the historic route. Go through the front entrance. Walk across the carpeted lobby and descend a stairwell. Shining through great windows across the Sun Room is the much-anticipated first view of Grand Canyon.

The architect, Gilbert Stanley Underwood, following the wishes of former National Park Service Director Steven Mather, designed a rustic national park lodge. Grand Canyon Lodge served as a symbol of the importance of preserving of this natural wonder, while allowing for luxury and enjoyment. Yet, Underwood had incorporated something extra—a surprise view!

Underwood's 1928 Grand Canyon Lodge, designed for the Union Pacific Railroad, is not today's lodge. Underwood's design included a massive Spanish-style exterior with a high front topped by an observation tower. The original building burned down in 1932 and a new 1937 lodge now sits on its footprint.



A view of the back porch, stairway, and patio of the original Grand Canyon Lodge in 1930.

summer, buses brought more visitors, but Underwood's secret surprise of having your first view of Grand Canyon from inside the lodge was lost until the summer of 1937 when Grand Canyon Lodge reopened. Utilizing the same floor plan, the builders erected a more sensible structure with sloped roofs, better able to shed heavy snow. They also preserved Underwood's surprise view.

For decades employees would greet visitors arriving by bus and sing them through the entrance. Later the employees would put on a talent show after serving dinner and end the evening with a dance accompanied by a college student orchestra. While these



# Canyon Volunteers



## A Great Experience

For the past nine summers, I have volunteered as an interpreter on the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. It has been a way for me to share my love of the great outdoors and help the National Park Service with its mission to preserve the area for the enjoyment of all.

As a volunteer, I conduct nature walks and condor and archeology talks. I help visitors at the visitor center and out on the trails. Since one of my hobbies is photography, I enjoy taking visitors on a photo walk, with cameras in hand, to teach them how to take “better” pictures at the canyon and wherever else they visit. With my photography, I created an album of North Rim flora that is used as a reference in the visitor

center. This has been a wonderful way to meet and serve people from all walks of life and from all over the world. To be able to do this on the North Rim is memorable and most enjoyable, made more so by all the people I meet and with whom I work.

I hope to see you out on the trail or at one of the programs on the North Rim.

Happy Trails,  
Nancy Varga

## The Value of Volunteering

Whether it is working for resource protection, interpretation, maintenance, or science and resource management, volunteers are an integral part of a team whose mission is to preserve and protect these special places we call national parks. Some travel from season to season or year to year to different parks. Others find a park they have a special attraction to and stick around for a few years. Volunteers help national parks by donating their time, talents, and abilities to enhance visitors' experiences.

Although volunteering is a great experience and rewarding to the spirit, it is also hard work. The next time you see a volunteer wearing a green shirt with an NPS volunteer patch helping someone on the trail, answering questions at the visitor center, or contacting visitors around the lodge, take a minute to share your canyon experience or just give them a nod to show your appreciation. Come into the visitor center for information on the volunteer program or visit [www.volunteer.gov/gov](http://www.volunteer.gov/gov).

The fire that destroyed the original lodge engulfed the structure within minutes. On the top floor over the auditorium slept the only inhabitants —the lodge manager, his wife, and the maids. All exited safely to stand watching helplessly in the early morning hours of September 1, 1932.

The Utah Parks Company, Union Pacific's subsidiary, hastily erected a cafeteria and recreation hall. The next

entertainments no longer exist, the lodge still exhibits Underwood's genius.

Another genius, the geologist Clarence E. Dutton, came to the North Rim in 1880 and described his experience in his masterpiece, *A Tertiary History of the Grand Canyon District*: “The earth suddenly sinks at our feet to illimitable depths. In an instant, in the twinkling of an eye, the awful scene is before us.” Underwood must have read this book, or perhaps inspiration strikes twice.



The original Grand Canyon Lodge's outside fireplace and stairwell smolder in ruins after being destroyed by a kitchen fire in 1932.



# Special Events and Opportunities



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## North Rim Star Party

June 8–15

Explore the night sky with volunteers from the Phoenix Saguaro Astronomy Club. Enjoy a slide presentation and then view the night sky through their telescopes. Dress warmly. Check the visitor center or program flyers for presentation times. Telescope viewing continues into the night.

For better night sky viewing, please observe the low light restrictions. Keep flashlight use to a minimum or cover your light with red cellophane.

During the daytime, watch for special opportunities to view the sun through a filtered telescope.



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## Western Arts Day

July 13

Western Arts Day celebrates the western culture which defines what Grand Canyon, northern Arizona, and southern Utah are today. Focusing on music and poetry, activities take place in various locations throughout the North Rim developed area. Check at the visitor center for program topics, times, and locations.



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## American Indian Heritage Days

August 8–9

The 19<sup>th</sup> annual American Indian Heritage Days will honor Grand Canyon's original inhabitants and others who have contributed to its colorful history.

Heritage Days began in 1994 with individuals from the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, who were the last native group to occupy the North Rim area on a seasonal basis. The event has grown over the years to include a variety of presenters from Grand Canyon's Traditionally Associated Tribes.



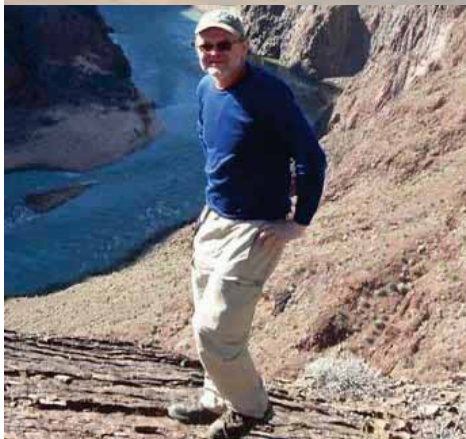
© NANCY K VARGA

## Symphony of the Canyon

August 10, 6:30 pm

Symphony of the Canyon presents a musical interpretation of Grand Canyon. This 19-year tradition brings southern Utah and northern Arizona musicians from pre-teen to more than 70 years old together to share their talents. For information, contact Forever Resorts at the Grand Canyon Lodge: 928-638-2611.





Poet and essayist Richard Kempa has been writing about Grand Canyon since 1974.  
© DAN SCHILLING

### Artist-in-Residence

Photography, music, painting, sculpture, performance, and writing preserve and celebrate the wonder and majesty of national parks. Artists frame our heritage for those who visit, those who will come, and those who will know the park only through this artistic legacy. This relationship continues with artists from all genres participating in the Artist-in-Residence program. This summer's North Rim artists include:

**Richard Kempa**, *poet and essayist*  
**Kathy Hodge**, *oil, charcoal, gouache/ watercolor artist*  
**Gloria Miller Allen**, *watercolor and mixed-media artist*  
**Carole Bonicelli**, *dyes and pastels on silk artist*  
**Maria Simon**, *ceramic sculptor and photo-journalist*

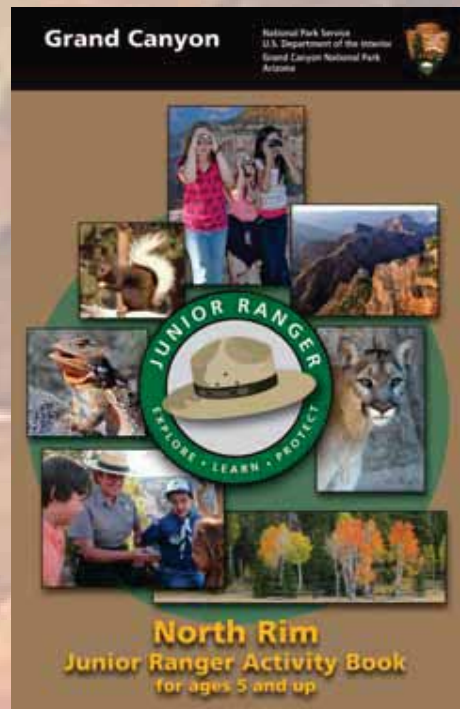
Ask at the visitor center for dates and times of free public programs. [www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grca/supportyourpark/air.htm)



© GARY LADD

### 5th Annual Celebration of Art September 14–20, 2013

This event provides the unique opportunity to see and purchase works of art from some of the best landscape painters in the country. Proceeds support the goal of funding a permanent art venue at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. For complete artist information and event details, visit [www.grandcanyon.org](http://www.grandcanyon.org).



### Become a Junior Ranger

Grand Canyon National Park offers a Junior Ranger program for children ages five and older. To take part in the free program, pick up a Junior Ranger booklet at the North Rim Visitor Center. Complete activities listed for the appropriate age level and attend a ranger-led program. Bring your completed booklet to the visitor center to receive an official Junior Ranger certificate and badge.

Already a Grand Canyon Junior Ranger from the past? Ask a park ranger about the brand new North Rim Junior Ranger booklet. This program is generously funded by the Grand Canyon Association.



INSPIRE. EDUCATE. PROTECT.

### Be a Part of Something Grand

*You can make a difference at Grand Canyon National Park!*

With your help, the Grand Canyon Association (GCA) supports an impressive variety of projects and programs that help ensure all visitors are able to enjoy the awe-inspiring wonder of Grand Canyon.

As the park's official nonprofit partner, GCA cooperates with the National Park Service to operate Park Stores in seven locations in the park. Purchases in GCA Park Stores help fund new exhibits, scientific research, trail restoration, wildlife monitoring, Junior Ranger and education programs, ecological restoration, support for the arts, and historic building preservation.

### How Can You Get Involved?

Visit the Grand Canyon Association Park Store in the North Rim Visitor Center. Join the Grand Canyon Association; members receive exclusive benefits and discounts. For information visit a GCA Park Store, call toll free (800) 858-2808, or visit [www.grandcanyon.org](http://www.grandcanyon.org).

**Background: Center Piece; watercolor painting by Gloria Miller Allen**



# Park Ranger Programs on North Rim

Discover Grand Canyon with daily, free programs given by park rangers and volunteers; no reservations needed. Additional programs such as talks about local history or culture, nature, geology, photography, an evening stroll, or telescope viewing may be available; check at the visitor center for special programs. Outdoor programs may be cancelled in inclement weather or when lightning danger is present. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all programs.

Time	Program	Description	Location	Dates	Duration
8:30 am	Nature Walk	Learn about the natural processes that sustain ponderosa pine and aspen forests. Start your morning with a relaxed 1.5-mile (2.4 km) walk with some elevation gain and loss.	North Rim Visitor Center	June 1 to October 15	60 minutes
10:30 am (Offered as staffing allows.)	Flashback—A Glimpse of History	Step back in time as a ranger introduces you to a remnant of North Rim history. Wheelchair accessible.	Grand Canyon Lodge Sun Room	Check at Visitor Center	15–20 minutes
1 pm	Way Cool Canyon	Hone your senses and open your eyes to the North Rim environment through activities, games, and stories. Check out a Discovery Pack after the program so the whole family can explore on their own. Family-friendly program. Wheelchair accessible.	North Rim Campground Amphitheater	June 8 to August 18	45 minutes
1:30 pm (Offered as staffing allows.)	Into the Past	How did people at Grand Canyon survive hundreds and even thousands of years ago? Discover the powerful ties between people and place. Ask a ranger about a nearby excavated ancestral Puebloan site. Allow 45 minutes to drive from North Rim Visitor Center. Wheelchair accessible.	Walhalla Overlook parking lot	Check at Visitor Center	30–40 minutes
3 pm	What's Rockin'? Grand Canyon Geology	Why is Grand Canyon here and not in your backyard? Enjoy a ranger talk and then test your new skills with a short, optional stroll to Bright Angel Point. Program is wheelchair accessible but Bright Angel Point is not easily accessed by wheelchairs.	Grand Canyon Lodge back porch fireplace	May 15 to October 15	30–40 minutes
4:30 pm	Condor Talk	What has a 9-foot (2.7 m) wingspan and a face only a mother could love? The California condor. Come discover their life and death story and the science that saved this incredible bird. Family-friendly program. Wheelchair accessible.	Grand Canyon Lodge back porch fireplace	May 15 to October 15	30–40 minutes
7 pm	Campfire Program	Learn about a fascinating aspect of the Grand Canyon story. Topics are posted in the campground, lodge, and visitor center. Family-friendly program. Wheelchair accessible.	North Rim Campground Amphitheater	May 24 to September 21	35–45 minutes
8 pm	Evening Program	A variety of programs explore the scenic, scientific, and cultural aspects of this special landscape. Nightly topics are posted in the lodge, visitor center, and campground. Bring your questions and arrive 15 minutes early for an "Ask the Ranger" discussion.	Grand Canyon Lodge Auditorium	May 15 to October 15	35–45 minutes

# Inner Canyon Park Ranger Programs

Going to Phantom Ranch or Indian Garden? Join a park ranger to discover the many wonders of the inner canyon. Programs vary and cover a wide range of natural and cultural history topics. *These programs are offered in Grand Canyon's backcountry and are only accessible by a long, strenuous hike or mule ride.*

## Phantom Ranch

4 pm and 7:30 pm

Daily

Check bulletin board for program locations and topics. Phantom Ranch Junior Ranger activity booklet available. Accessible only by hiking 14 miles (22.5 km) from North Rim via the North Kaibab Trail.

## Indian Garden

Times may vary

Friday to Monday

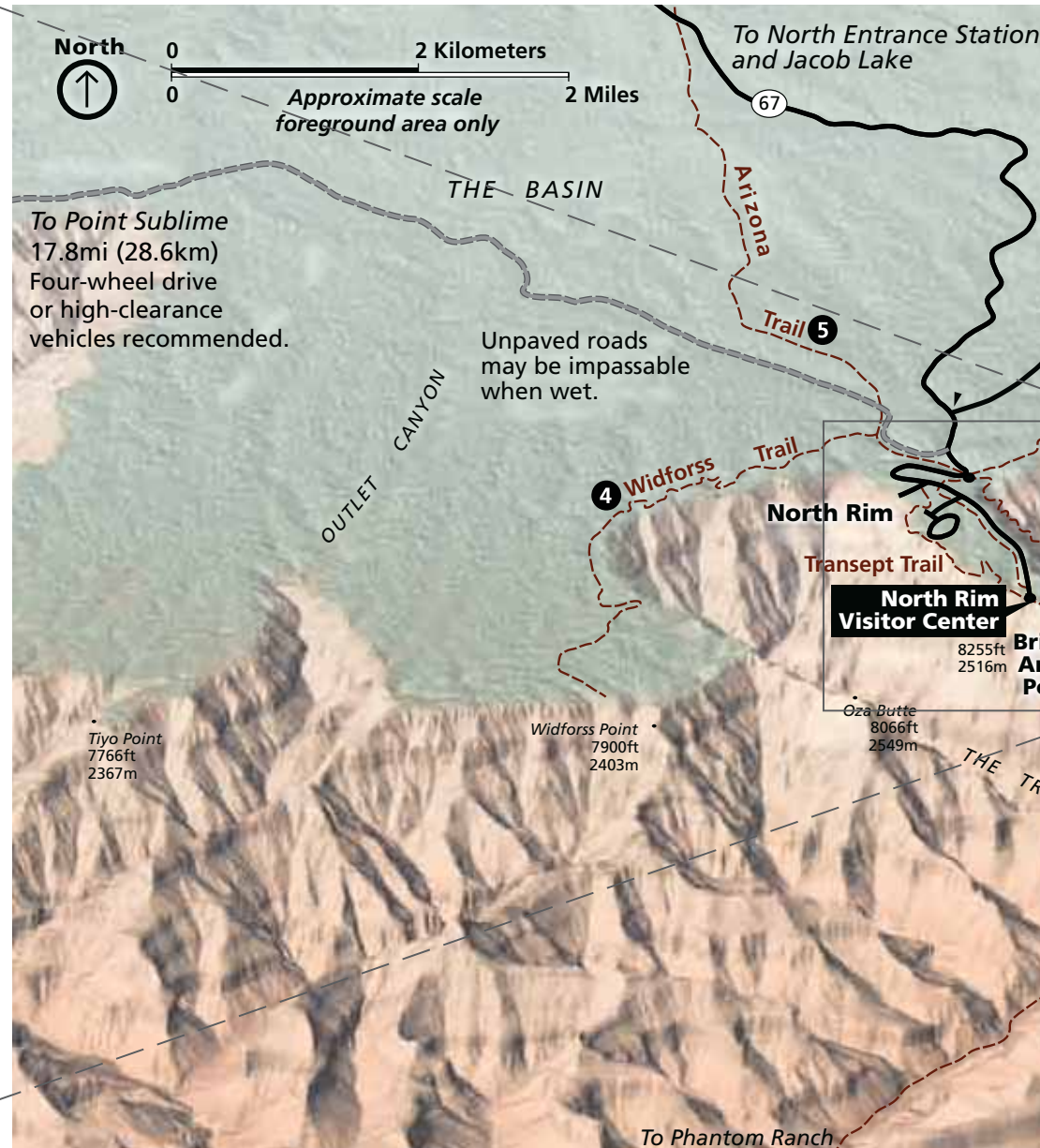
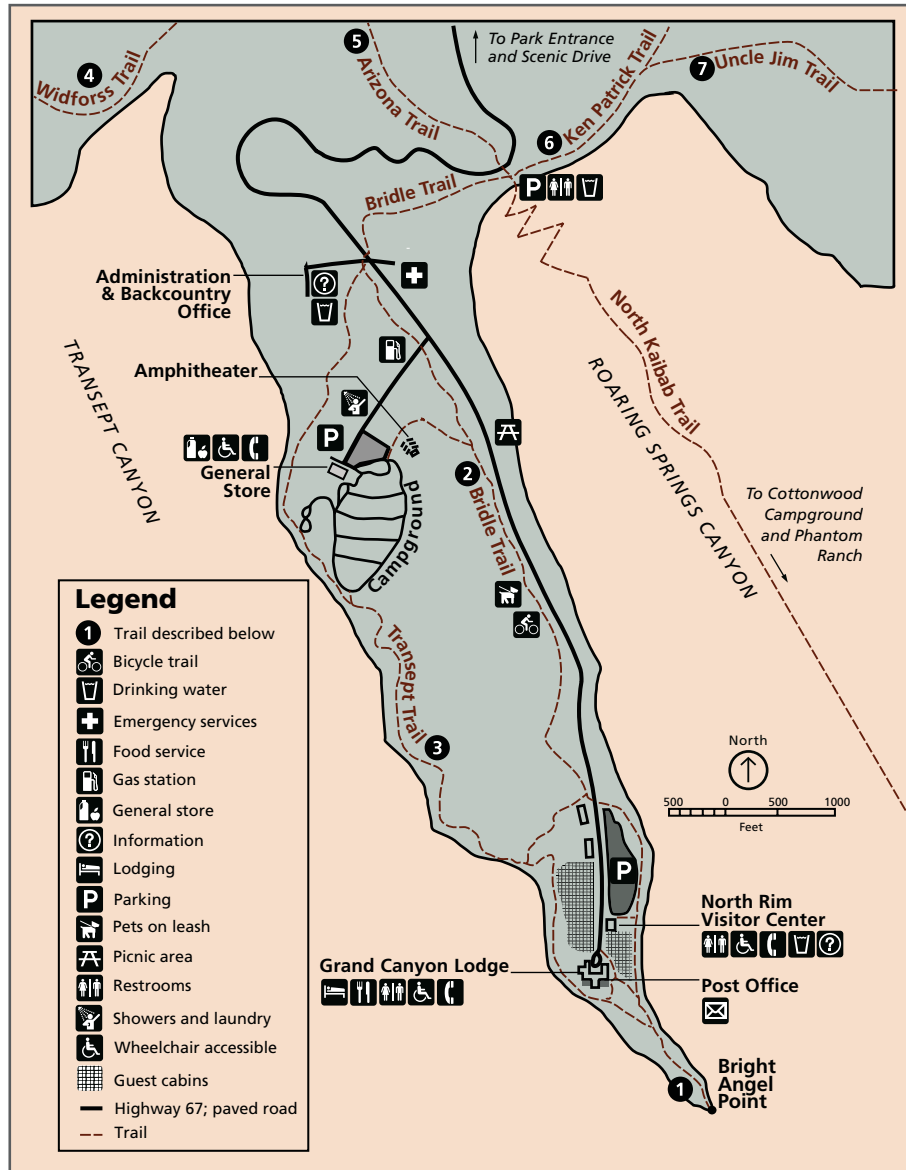
Check the bulletin board for program topics, locations, and times. Wilderness Explorer Junior Ranger booklet available. Accessible only by hiking 18.7 miles (30 km) from North Rim via the North Kaibab and Bright Angel trails.



Volunteer George Varga can often be seen on the Grand Canyon Lodge veranda sharing his knowledge of and passion for Grand Canyon with park visitors. Be sure to look for him at night when he is showing visitors night sky treasures with his telescope.



# North Rim Driving and Trail Guide



Note: Vehicles longer than 30 feet (9 m) are not recommended on the roads to Cape Royal and

# Hiking along the North Rim

Day hiking along Grand Canyon's rim is one way to experience the canyon's rich natural beauty and immense size. No permits or fees are required.

Assuming you are physically fit and have adequate food and water, the following day hikes are considered reasonable for most people.

Bring at least 3 quarts / liters of water per person, plenty of snacks, sturdy shoes or boots, hat, and sunscreen on your hike. Always check the status of trails before traveling to the trailhead.

Trail numbers correlate with the maps above. All hiking times are approximate. For information about hiking below the rim, see page 8.

## ❶ Bright Angel Point Trail

0.5 mi (0.8 km) round-trip

30 minutes round-trip

A short walk on a paved trail leads to a spectacular view of the canyon.

Trail begins at the log shelter in the visitor center parking area or from the lodge back porch.

## ❷ Bridle Trail

1.2 mi (2 km) one-way

45 minutes one-way

This trail follows the road as it connects Grand Canyon Lodge with North Kaibab Trailhead. Pets on a leash and bicycles are permitted on this hard-packed trail.

## ❸ Transept Trail

3.0 mi (4.8 km) round-trip

1.5 hours round-trip

Trail follows the canyon rim from Grand Canyon Lodge to North Rim Campground.

## ❹ Widforss Trail

10 mi (16 km) round-trip

6 hours round-trip

Wander through a blend of forest and canyon scenery—even a short walk can be very satisfying. To locate the trailhead, take the dirt road 0.25 mile (0.4 km) south of Cape Royal Road for one mile (1.6 km) to the Widforss Trail parking area. Self-guiding trail brochure available at trailhead.

## ❺ Arizona Trail

10 mi (16 km) one-way

6 hours one-way

A section of this trail enters the park near the North Entrance and roughly parallels Highway 67 until it connects with the North Kaibab Trail.









**6 Ken Patrick Trail**

10 mi (16 km) one-way

6 hours one-way

Trail winds through the forest and along the rim from Point Imperial to the North Kaibab Trail parking area.

**7 Uncle Jim Trail**

5.0 mi (8.0 km) round-trip

3 hours round-trip

Stroll through the forest to a viewpoint overlooking the canyon and the North Kaibab Trail switchbacks. Begin from the North Kaibab Trail parking lot. This trail is also used by mules. See page 10 for etiquette and safety information.

**8 Point Imperial Trail**

4.0 mi (6.4 km) round-trip

2 hours round-trip

This easy trail passes through areas burned by the 2000 Outlet Fire and ends at the north park boundary. From there, it is possible to continue to the Nankoweap Trail and US Forest Service roads.

**9 Roosevelt Point Trail**

0.2 mi (0.3 km) round-trip

20 minutes round-trip

Stroll this secluded woodland loop offering spectacular views and benches for relaxing. Trail begins from the Roosevelt Point parking area.

**10 Cape Final Trail**

4.0 mi (6.4 km) round-trip

2 hours round-trip

Enjoy a forested walk from the dirt parking area to Cape Final. This trail offers a view of the canyon and the Painted Desert. Trail begins 2.4 miles (3.9 km) north of the Cape Royal parking lot.

**11 Cliff Springs Trail**

1.0 mi (1.6 km) round-trip

1 hour round-trip

Path meanders down a forested ravine and ends where a chest-high boulder rests under a large overhang. The spring is on the cliff side of the boulder. Please do not drink the water since it may be contaminated. Trail begins directly across the road from a small pullout on a curve 0.3 miles (0.5 km) north of Cape Royal.

**12 Cape Royal Trail**

0.6 mi (1.0 km) round-trip

30 minutes round-trip

An easy walk on a flat, paved trail offering views of the canyon, Angels Window, and the Colorado River. Markers along the trail interpret the area's natural history. Trail begins at the southeast side of the Cape Royal parking area.



**Where Can I Find Free Drinking Water?**

In an effort to reduce litter along hiking trails, plastics in the waste stream, and greenhouse gas emissions, Grand Canyon National Park eliminated the sale of water packaged in individual disposable containers—including plastic and glass bottles.

***Water bottle filling stations are available:*** Bring or buy a reusable water bottle and fill it up for free at the Visitor Center, Administration & Backcountry Office, or North Kaibab Trailhead. Reusable souvenir water bottles are available at Park Stores and gift shops.



# Below the Rim Hiking: North Kaibab Trail

Day hiking into the canyon affords an unparalleled experience. For an enjoyable hike you must prepare for extreme conditions. Plan one-third of your time to walk down and two-thirds to trudge back up. Gauge your fitness level, be honest about your health, and don't compare yourself to five or 10 years ago. Know your limits and average walking distance and time. Grand Canyon is an extreme environment!

## Prepare a Day Pack With:

**Water** One quart/liter for every two hours. Know your water sources—some water stations are seasonal.

**Food** Bring salty snacks and a full meal. Eat often, even if you are not hungry.

**First Aid Kit and Survival Tools** Also include medications, blister care, and duct tape.

**Map** Many trails are well marked, but some are not. *Know your route.*

**Flashlight or Headlamp** You may end up hiking in the dark unexpectedly; cell phones do not provide adequate light.

**Sun Protection** Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, and sun umbrella.

**Communication** Whistle or signal mirror; cell phones are not reliable.

**Simple Shelters** Emergency tarp with reflective side.

**Weather-appropriate Clothing and Footwear** Layer for the weather and wear hiking boots with good soles, a hat, and sunglasses. Over-the-shoe traction devices recommended for ice and snow.

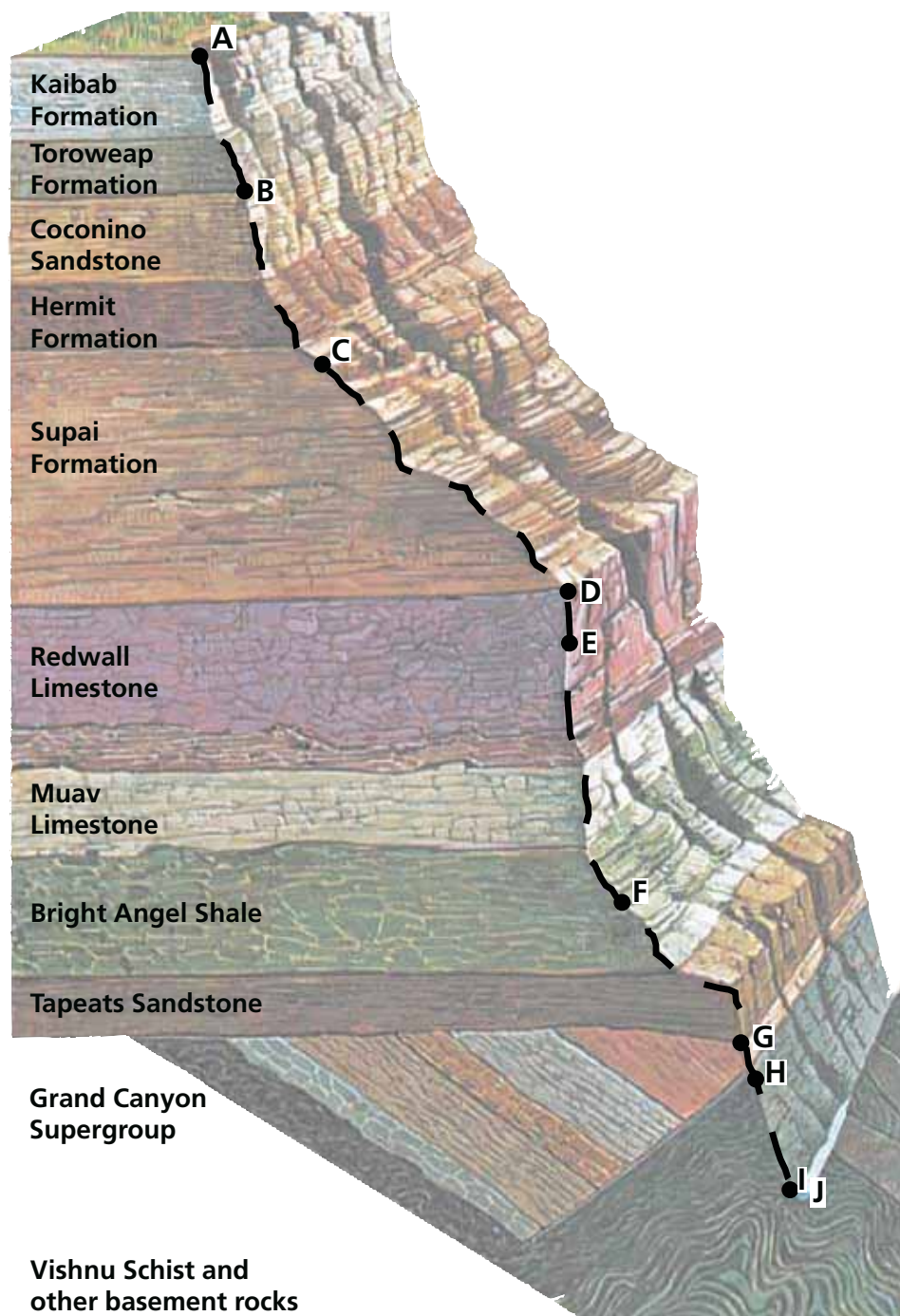


## Hike Smart

**Plan** Knowledge, being prepared, and a good plan are all keys to success. Grand Canyon is not the place for spontaneity. *Stay together, follow your plan, and know where and how to seek help.*

**Eat and Drink** Snack every time you drink water or energy drinks.

**Rest** Sit down, prop your legs up, and take a 5- to 10-minute break at least once every hour. If you are not feeling well, rest for at least 30 minutes.



Health Risks

**Common Challenges** Grand Canyon's climate can intensify all health issues, including minor colds, making hiking more difficult. Spring can bring snow on the rim and very hot temperatures in the canyon. Be prepared for both; your body may not adjust quickly.

**Over Exertion** People often have overly ambitious plans and fail to pace themselves. If you feel unwell, you must rest. *Remember it takes twice as long to hike up as it does to hike down.*

**Dehydration and Electrolyte Imbalances** An imbalance of fluids and electrolytes in the body can lead to dangerous medical conditions. Make sure you are eating salty foods while you hike.

**Hypothermia** With this life-threatening condition, the body cannot keep itself warm due to exhaustion and exposure to cold, wet, and windy weather. Put on dry clothing, drink warm liquids, and protect yourself from the weather.

**Heat-related Illness** In spring, be aware of over-exposure to hot, dry weather. Rest in the shade, drink water and sports drinks, and eat high-energy foods.

Danger!

**Do Not Day Hike To the Colorado River** *Hiking to the river and back in one day is never recommended* due to long distances, extreme temperature changes, and a near 5,000-foot (1,500 m) elevation change each way.

**Avoid Swimming** Diving and swimming in the Colorado River has caused numerous deaths. The Colorado River is fast, wide, and a dangerously cold 46°F (8°C) year-round.

**Do Not Throw Rocks** Rocks or other objects tossed over the edge or dislodged by taking shortcuts can injure hikers and wildlife below.

Reflection

**Did you Leave a Trace?** Day hikers can leave quite a mark in the canyon—literally. Write a postcard to your friends instead of writing on walls. Take your trash back out with you, including toilet paper. Do not feed the wildlife, and guard your food from food-habituated animals.

**Were you Safe?** Did you follow your plans and have enough food and water? Did you have fun? What would you do different next time?

North Kaibab Trail Destinations

Location	Elevation	One-way Distance	Facilities
A. Trailhead	8,250 feet (2,515 m)	0 miles (0 km)	water
B. Coconino Overlook	7,450 feet (2,270 m)	0.7 miles (1.1 km)	none
C. Supai Tunnel	6,800 feet (2,070 m)	2.0 miles (3.2 km)	water
D. Redwall Bridge	6,100 feet (1,860 m)	2.6 miles (4.2 km)	none
E. Eye of the Needle	5,850 feet (1,780 m)	3.5 miles (5.6 km)	none
F. Roaring Springs	5,200 feet (1,585 m)	4.7 miles (7.6 km)	water
G. Cottonwood Campground	4080 feet (1,240 m)	6.8 miles (10.9 km)	water, campground, ranger station, toilets
H. Ribbon Falls	3,720 feet (1,130 m)	8.3 miles (13.4 km)	none
I. Phantom Ranch	2,546 feet (776 m)	13.7 miles (22 km)	water, campground, ranger station, toilets
J. Colorado River	2,400 feet (730 m)	14.2 miles (22.9 km)	Do not swim in river.

Overnight Hiking

A hike into the canyon will test your physical and mental endurance. Know and respect your abilities and limitations. Rangers will be glad to help you plan a hike within your capabilities. All overnight hikers, except those staying in the lodging at Phantom Ranch, must obtain a backcountry permit.

**Hiking Permits**  
Backcountry use permits and fees are required for overnight hiking. Day hikes do not require a permit or fee.

**Successful Hikers**  
Avoid hiking in the middle of the day. Begin your trip, hike between campgrounds, and return to the rim before 10 am or after 4 pm. All hikers should be aware that efforts to assist them may be limited during the busy summer months due to staffing levels, number of rescue calls, employee safety requirements, and limited helicopter flying capability during periods of extreme heat or inclement weather.

**Backcountry Fees**  
Backcountry permit fee: \$10  
Per person per night user impact fee: \$5

Overnight permit requests should be arranged up to four months in advance.  
Contact:  
Backcountry Information Center  
Grand Canyon National Park  
1824 S. Thompson St., Suite 201  
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Hikers arriving without permits should contact the Backcountry Information Center, located in the administrative building, 11.5 miles (18.5 km) south of the North Entrance Station. Rangers are on duty 8 am to noon and 1–5 pm daily.

For information visit: [www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm](http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm)





## Restoration of a Forest: Using Fire to Heal

Did you notice the charred tree trunks and recovering forest as you drove from Jacob Lake to the North Rim? For some people, it can be hard to accept that fire is an integral part of the park's forested ecosystems. At Grand Canyon, plants and animals evolved with fire and depend upon it to create the conditions they need to flourish. Fire management demands a careful balance between suppressing unwanted fires, often caused by humans, and allowing for the positive attributes of fire under favorable conditions.

Many factors—weather, topography, and vegetation types—influence fire behavior and the effects fires have on park resources. In prolonged hot, dry, and windy conditions, wildland fire threatens park resources and can cause significant damage. Aggressive suppression actions are taken against these types of fires.

Park staff use fire as a tool for ecosystem restoration when conditions are right. Lightning-ignited fires may be allowed to burn when conditions benefit the ecosystem. Suppression actions are taken if fire behavior contradicts resource goals. Prescribed fires are planned ignitions, implemented under scientifically-determined conditions, with specific objectives in mind, such as to protect developed areas.

During the last few years, the park completed important fuel reduction projects designed to improve defensible space and reduce the potential impacts of wildland fire near structures, campgrounds, and other at-risk areas. Defensible space is the area between a structure and the surrounding forest where vegetation has been modified to reduce a fire's threat. Properly modified and maintained vegetation can slow a fire, shorten flame lengths, reduce the amount of generated heat, and increase the odds of saving a structure.

The National Park Service has a mandate to preserve resources such as plants and

## Discover Kaibab National Forest

Much of the Kaibab Plateau is protected by Kaibab National Forest and Grand Canyon National Park. Kaibab means “mountain lying down” in the Paiute language.



Jacob Lake Ranger Station, built in 1910, connects us with the beginning of the US Forest Service and stands today on its original site near Jacob Lake.

### Visitor Center

A visit to the North Kaibab Ranger District should include a stop at the North Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center in Jacob Lake, Arizona. The visitor center is open 8 am to 5 pm daily from mid-May to mid-October, with reduced hours later into the season.

### Scenic Vistas

North Kaibab Ranger District offers a variety of spectacular views of Grand Canyon, Kanab Creek Wilderness,

### Winter Sports

Cross-country skiing is a good way to enjoy northern Arizona's winters. The snow-covered forest roads become great ski and snowshoe trails. Many miles of forest roads and connecting meadows provide excellent snowmobiling opportunities not permitted in Grand Canyon National Park. The area east of Highway 67 and south of Highway 89A is closed to motorized winter use and offers great solitude.



animals, along with the natural processes that sustain them, including fire. Fire management policies evolve with our understanding of fire's vital role in nature. Fire is a powerful natural force; its destructive potential is evident, but fire's positive attributes must also be recognized. As a land manager, how would you balance suppressing fires and allowing the natural process of fire to continue?

# Follow in their Footsteps



Thousands of people have called Grand Canyon home during the past 12,000 years. While visiting the park, you may come across the remnants of cultures from long ago. You may see evidence left by miners, explorers, or cattlemen, or the remains of American Indian dwellings, rock art, or artifacts, such as pottery and projectile points. Unintentional damage by visitors to cultural sites is a major, but preventable, problem.

Remains and artifacts are a fragile, irreplaceable legacy. The National Park Service preserves and protects these priceless resources. Federal law prohibits the excavation, injury, or destruction of historic or archaeological sites and the removal of any artifacts.

Irreplaceable cultural sites tell the story of this country and remain places of ancestral importance to American Indians. Treat these treasures with utmost care and respect. If you would like to experience an archaeological site while on the North Rim, visit Walhalla Glades Ruin, Transept Trail Ruin, or Cliff Spring Granary.

and Vermillion Cliffs. Some of these viewpoints are easy drives, while others require a high-clearance vehicle. Remember, get a map before heading out on the more remote routes.

## Trails

Trails in North Kaibab Ranger District offer both challenges and rewards for the hiker, bicyclist, equestrian, or cross-country skier. Challenges come from the steep, rugged terrain, primitive trails, and the potential lack of water. Rewards include solitude, inspirational scenic features, discovering unique rock formations, and taking in breathtaking views of distant horizons.

## Wilderness

North Kaibab Ranger District offers more than 108,000 acres (44,000 ha) that remain wild and free in two wilderness areas—Kanab Creek on the west side of the plateau and Saddle Mountain to the east.

Elevation in Kanab Creek Wilderness ranges from 2,000 feet (600 m) at Kanab Creek to 6,000 feet (1,800 m) at the rim. This wilderness contains Kanab Creek, a major tributary of the Colorado River, and a network of vertical-walled gorges.

Saddle Mountain Wilderness varies from 6,000 feet (1,800 m) on the Marble Canyon Rim to 8,000 feet (2,400 m) on Saddle Mountain. Gentle slopes on top of the plateau change to sudden drop-offs at the rim.

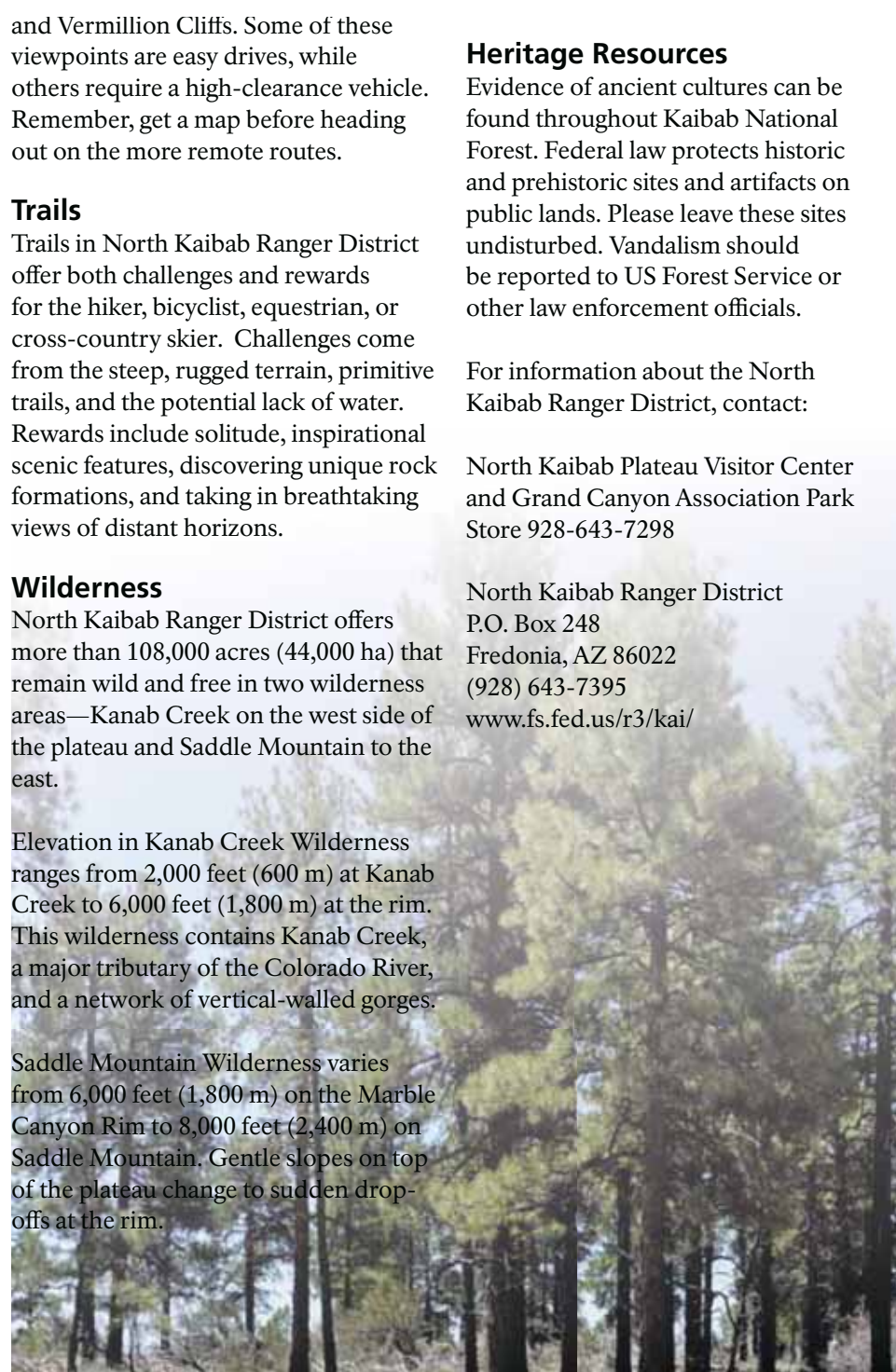
## Heritage Resources

Evidence of ancient cultures can be found throughout Kaibab National Forest. Federal law protects historic and prehistoric sites and artifacts on public lands. Please leave these sites undisturbed. Vandalism should be reported to US Forest Service or other law enforcement officials.

For information about the North Kaibab Ranger District, contact:

North Kaibab Plateau Visitor Center and Grand Canyon Association Park Store 928-643-7298

North Kaibab Ranger District  
P.O. Box 248  
Fredonia, AZ 86022  
(928) 643-7395  
[www.fs.fed.us/r3/kai/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/kai/)





# Nature Notes



## Let Wildlife Be Wild

Deer and bison can be extremely aggressive. Never approach wild animals and always discourage animals from approaching you by yelling and stamping your feet. Report aggressive or bizarre behavior from a wild animal to a park ranger or other park personnel.

### Never Feed Them

Natural wild foods are available year round. Once a wild animal is fed human food, it may become habituated to human handouts. Animals may eat

wrappers and plastic bags along with the food, leading to severe injuries and death.

### Protect Yourself, Family, and Pets

Squirrels and rodents may get into your belongings or enter your vehicle, room, or tent. Keep doors closed. Serious bites from squirrels happen all too often. People can get the plague from being bitten by an infected flea or by handling an infected animal. Pets must stay on a leash at all times.



© NANCY K VARGA

## Kaibab Squirrel

Watch for the "Silver Ghost of the North Rim," also known as the Kaibab squirrel. The unique Kaibab squirrel lives only in ponderosa pine forests on the North Rim. You can spot the Abert's

squirrel, another subspecies of tassel-eared squirrel, on the South Rim. At the end of the last ice age, these squirrels moved from the south to ponderosa pine forests in northern Arizona.



© NANCY K VARGA

## Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel

At first glance, the golden-mantled ground squirrel appears to be a chipmunk (also in the Squirrel family) on steroids. The easiest way to tell the difference between the golden-mantled ground squirrel and a chipmunk is by the distinct lines displayed on a chipmunk's face. Take another look. If the stripes are missing, chances are

you are looking at a golden-mantled ground squirrel. Remember, not only is it illegal to feed the animals, but they may bite the hand that feeds them. As with all rodents, squirrels may have disease-carrying fleas, ticks, or lice. Take precautions to keep rodents out of your bags, vehicles, rooms, tents, and other personal belongings.





© NANCY K VARGA

## Mountain Short-Horned Lizard

Keep your eyes open for some interesting sights here at Grand Canyon. Creatures such as this mountain short-horned lizard are among the surprises you may encounter during your visit. This spiny reptile, a member of the iguana family, feeds mainly on ants.

Mountain short-horned lizards are very cold tolerant, allowing them to live at the high elevations of the North Rim. One of their adaptations to cool environments is that they are *viviparous* and give birth to live young.



## Mule

Although not native to the area, mules are a common sight at Grand Canyon. With a donkey for a dad and a horse for a mom, mules are said to be more sure footed than a horse and smarter than a donkey. Mules are acutely aware of their surroundings and have become very familiar with some of the trails on the North Rim.

If you encounter a mule on the trail, be aware they have the right of way. Stop and find a place off the trail to take a short break. Make sure to put the trail between you and the canyon so the mule can pass easily. Don't make any sudden movements or try to touch a mule. Listen for further instruction from the wrangler.



## Quaking Aspen

Shimmer is an action that comes to mind when viewing the quaking aspen, a member of the Willow family. Flattened leaf stalks allow the leaves to tremble. The movement helps distribute sunshine evenly to the leaves. It also keeps the upper leaves from getting too much sun and allows more light to reach the lower leaves.

After fire moves through a forest, sun-loving aspens thrive in the open conditions. New sprouts spring from unburned roots and start the cycle of

recovery from scorched earth to mature forest. In some areas you may see a crooked forest of aspen. This bending and maneuvering allows the trees to withstand the heavy snow loads that come with winter. This is a hearty tree.

As you walk through the towering white-barked trees with nervous leaves, you may see a name, date, or picture scratched into the trunks. These historic dendroglyphs are intriguing to see, but carving into these trees yourself is considered vandalism.





## On The Wings of a Condor

Is that a bird or an airplane? If you find yourself asking this question, it is very possible you are seeing the results of the hopeful, and so far promising, comeback story of the California condor. With their large wings, bald head, and a face only a mother could love, seeing a condor riding a thermal over the canyon is a spectacular view from the past.

Fossil evidence shows that condors have nested in the Grand Canyon area for approximately 50,000 years. During the Pleistocene, when the canyon had a cooler and wetter climate, the California condor scavenged carcasses of sloth, mammoth, and horse. A once-flourishing bird, the California condor was almost gone by the 1980s when there were fewer than two dozen left in the world. There are many reasons for their decline, most involving human impacts. With this in mind, scientists have been working to re-establish their presence in central California and northern Arizona. One confirmation of a successful reintroduction program is reproduction in the wild.

California condors, being curious, are attracted to human activity. If you see a condor, do not approach it or offer it food. Try to read the number on the wing band and report its number and location to a park ranger.

## Bison or Beefalo?

Visitors to the North Rim may see large herds of bison in the meadows near the Entrance Station. Bison are not native to Grand Canyon National Park. In fact, these particular animals were brought to the Kaibab Plateau in 1906 in an effort to breed them with cattle and produce a hardy bison variety. The experiment was not economically successful and was abandoned several years later. Today, this hybrid group, or “beefalo” herd, is managed by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The House Rock Valley Wildlife Area, located just east of the park, was designated as a bison range in 1950 to provide them a home and reduce conflicts with wildlife and cattle.

Since 2000, the bison hybrids have been traveling from the wildlife area to the Kaibab Plateau and into Grand Canyon National Park. The herd now numbers more than 400 head, with the majority staying within park boundaries year round. Unfortunately these extremely large grazing animals are fouling sensitive and critical water sources, trampling and removing delicate vegetation, and compacting fragile soils. Grand Canyon National Park is working closely with federal and state managers who are determined to reduce or eliminate the bison’s negative impacts to park resources.

Bison may appear tame and slow, but they are unpredictable and dangerous. They weigh up to 2,000 pounds (900 kg) and sprint at 30 miles (48 km) per hour, three times faster than you can run. For your safety, you must stay at least 75 feet (23 m) from bison.



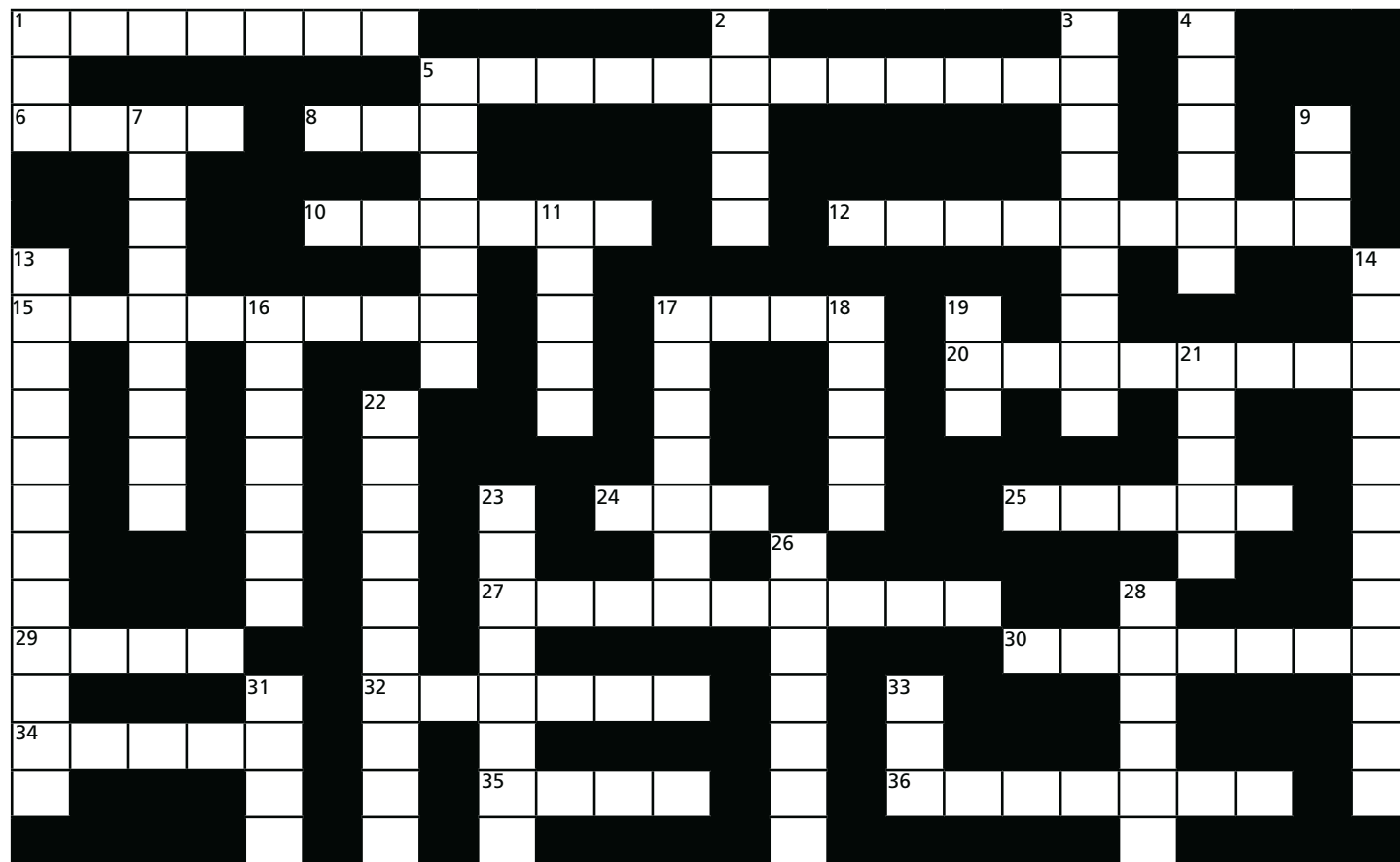
Top: California condors boast an impressive nine-foot wingspan.  
Bottom: Non-native “beefalo” graze in a North Rim meadow.

# North Rim Crossword

Test your knowledge about Grand Canyon trivia. Answers are posted at the North Rim Visitor Center.

## Across

1. 48th state and canyon home
5. Mountain range to the south
6. Phantom Ranch precursor
8. South Rim fall bugler
10. Early river runner
12. Bark fragrant tree
15. Grand Canyon's highest point (8,803 feet/2,742 meters)
17. Ancestral Puebloan religious chamber
20. Meeting spot for ranger program *Into the Past*
24. Night flying mammal
25. Horned rocky-terrain climber
27. River mile zero
29. Some say "It is just a big \_\_\_\_\_ in the ground"
30. Follow us @ GrandCanyonNPS
32. Our 1919 Presidential friend
34. Tunnel or iron rich geologic formation
35. \_\_\_\_\_ of the seven life zones are here
36. Daily summer weather event



## Down

1. It is thinner up here
2. Good hiking foods
3. He said, "...Leave it as it is. You cannot improve on it."
4. Large endangered bird
5. Glass walkway (hint: it is not here)
7. Annual June event
9. Park Store non-profit and park partner
11. Suggested amount of water: one \_\_\_\_\_ (32 oz) per hour
13. Six thousand feet below (geologically speaking)
14. Plan ahead and prepare; first principle of this .org
16. Colorado River headwaters
17. Limestone and squirrel
18. Bright \_\_\_\_\_ Point, Creek, or Fault
19. Great-horned \_\_\_\_\_
21. Quaking fall color tree
22. Backcountry layover halfway down North Kaibab Trail
23. Help "Keep \_\_\_\_\_ wild"
26. Cattle bison hybrid
28. American Indian nut staple
31. Grand Canyon \_\_\_\_\_ rattlesnake
33. It changed river flow



# Information and Services: Inside the Park



**THE NORTH RIM VISITOR CENTER** is a great place to start your adventure on the North Rim. Bring this newspaper with you and speak with a ranger who will be happy to answer your questions. The visitor center features interpretive exhibits, a Park Store, and nearby canyon views.

To reach the visitor center, park in the designated parking area (map on pages 6–7) and walk to the south end of the parking lot. Open daily:  
May 15 to October 15: 8 am–6 pm  
October 16–31: 9 am–4 pm



## Food & Lodging

### Grand Canyon Lodge Dining Room

Breakfast 6:30–10 am; lunch 11:30 am–2:30 pm; dinner 4:45–9:45 pm.  
Reservations recommended for dinner.

**Deli in the Pines** May 15 to August 31, 10:30 am–9 pm; September 1 to October 15, 11 am–8 pm.

**Roughrider Saloon** 11:30 am–11 pm.

**Coffee Shop** Located in the Roughrider Saloon; offers coffee, bagels, baked goods, and other breakfast items, 5:30–10:30 am.

**Grand Cookout Experience** An evening of fun, food, and entertainment. This experience takes place near the campground and requires advanced ticket purchase by mid-afternoon on the day of attendance. 928-638-2611

**Grand Canyon Lodge** Check at the lodge for same day availability. Make advance reservations with Forever Resorts. Reserve as far ahead as possible since lodging is booked well in advance. 877-386-4383 or 480-998-1981  
[www.grandcanyonforever.com](http://www.grandcanyonforever.com).

## General Services

**ATM** Available in the General Store and Roughrider Saloon.

**Laundry and Showers** On the road to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 7 am–10 pm.

**Service Station** On the access road to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 8 am–5 pm. Diesel available; 24 hour pay-at-the-pump.

**Groceries and Camping Supplies** The General Store is adjacent to the North Rim Campground. Open daily 7 am–8 pm.

**Lost and Found** Found items should be turned in at the North Rim Visitor Center. Inquires about lost items can be made at the visitor center or the Grand Canyon Lodge front desk.

**Post Office** In the Grand Canyon Lodge complex. Window service open Monday through Friday, 8 am to noon and 1pm–5pm. Closed Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

**Religious Services** Check the bulletin board in Grand Canyon Lodge for a schedule of services.



**Pets** Pets are allowed only on the Bridle Trail that connects Grand Canyon Lodge and North Kaibab Trailhead. Pets, except service animals, are not allowed on any other trails. Pets must be leashed at all times and are not permitted in Grand Canyon Lodge or lodging facilities. No kennel is available on the North Rim.

## Camping

**North Rim Campground** Operated by the National Park Service, campsites are \$18–25. No hook-ups, but a dump station is available. Stays limited to seven days per season. Open through October 31. Campground fills most nights; advance reservations recommended. 877-444-6777 or 518-885-3639  
[www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

## Books and Gifts

### Grand Canyon Association Park Store

Located in the North Rim Visitor Center. Open daily 8 am–6 pm, May 15 to October 15 and 9 am–4 pm, October 16–31.

**Gift Shop** Located in the Grand Canyon Lodge Complex; open daily 8 am–9 pm. Some gift items are also available in the General Store.

## South Rim

Only 10 miles (16 km) away as the condor flies, a five-hour, 215 mile (345 km) drive is required to get to the South Rim by vehicle.

All South Rim visitor services—camping, lodging, and restaurants—are open year-round. Reservations are strongly recommended during the busy summer season.

A free shuttle bus system operates between visitor centers, hotels, restaurants, gift shops, and viewpoints in Grand Canyon Village.



## Interagency Park Passes

Save money on entrance fees with the America the Beautiful—National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Pass. Accepted at any federal fee area, the pass is valid for one year and can be purchased at park entrances stations, Grand Canyon Association Park Stores, or online: <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html>

A lifetime Senior Pass is available for US citizens 62 or older. Active duty US military and US citizens with permanent disabilities can obtain a free pass. Fees collected support projects in the park.

## Tours and Activities

**Canyon Trail Rides** One-hour rides along the rim, half-day rim, and inner canyon trips are usually available each day. Register at the Canyon Trail Rides desk in the Grand Canyon Lodge lobby. Open daily 7 am–5 pm or call 435-679-8665.

**Whitewater Raft Trips** Commercial whitewater raft trips through the canyon last 3–18 days and require reservations in advance. For information visit [www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca).

**Smooth-water Raft Trips** Colorado River Discovery provides half - and full-day trips on the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to Lees Ferry. 888-522-6644 or [www.raftthecanyon.com](http://www.raftthecanyon.com)

# Information and Services: Outside the Park

## Lodging, Food, and Store

**Kaibab Lodge** Located 18 miles (30 km) north of North Rim, the lodge is open May 15 through October 25 and includes a restaurant. Some services may remain open after facilities in the park have closed for the season. 928-638-2389

**Jacob Lake Inn** Located 45 miles (72 km) north of the North Rim in Jacob Lake, Arizona, the inn is open year-round from 6:30 am–9 pm. Includes a restaurant, store, propane, and gas station with pay-at-the-pump available 24 hours daily. 928-643-7232

**North Rim Country Store** Located 18 miles (30 km) north of the North Rim. Convenience store and gas station open 7:30 am–7 pm daily, May 15 to November 2. Offers tire repair, propane, and ATM. 928-638-2383

## Transportation

**Hiker Shuttle** A shuttle to the North Kaibab Trailhead picks up passengers in front of the Grand Canyon Lodge at 5:45 am and 7:10 am. Reserve space 24 hours in advance at the lodge front desk.

**Flagstaff Shuttle and Charter Service** between Flagstaff and Grand Canyon, as well as between the North and South rims. 888-215-3105

## Camping

**DeMotte Campground** This US Forest Service campground is 16 miles (28 km) north of North Rim. No hook-ups or reservations. Opens in late-May for the summer months at \$17 per night.

**Jacob Lake Campground** Operated during the summer by the US Forest Service; 45 miles (75 km) north of North Rim. No hook-ups. \$17 per night. Group site may be reserved: (877) 444-6777 or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

**Kaibab Camper Village** This commercial campground, open May 15 to October 15, is located 0.25 miles (0.5 km) south of Jacob Lake on Highway 67. Full hook-ups available. Reservations: 928-643-7804; off season call 928-526-0924.

**The Grand Canyon Shuttle** Daily shuttle service between the North and South rims. Reservations recommended. 928-606-9212

**Transcanyon Shuttle** Daily shuttle service between the North and South rims. Reservations required. 928-638-2820

## Dispersed Camping

In the Kaibab National Forest you may camp at large, or away from campgrounds. Stop at the North Kaibab Ranger District for information. Remember:

- There is no garbage service. Pack out what you take in.
- Bring water. Few reliable water sources exist on the Kaibab Plateau.
- Camp at least 0.25 mile (0.4 km) from water sources to allow access for wildlife and livestock.
- Be fire safe. Carry a shovel and bucket. Check at US Forest Service offices for seasonal fire restrictions.
- Bury all human waste at least 6 inches (15 cm) deep and a minimum of 100 feet (30 m) from water sources and drainage bottoms. Practice backcountry ethics and eliminate all signs of your camp.

## Weather and Road Conditions

Weather is posted daily in the visitor center. For daily weather and road conditions call 928-638-7496.

### Arizona Highway Information

511 or 888-411-ROAD or [www.az511.gov](http://www.az511.gov)

### Utah Highway Information

801-964-6000 or [www.sr.ex.state.ut.us](http://www.sr.ex.state.ut.us)

### Nevada Highway Information

702-486-3116 or [www.nevadadot.com](http://www.nevadadot.com)